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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Letter dated 21 March 1953 from Nelson A. Rockefeller to G. D. Jackson regarding new Foreign Information Agency and a Security Strategy Board to replace the PSB.

1. I have talked to the DCI, the State Department and Bill Jackson about the above Rockefeller letter. Mr. Dulles has talked to Nelson Rockefeller. The present status is that Nelson Rockefeller will not discuss anything contained in this letter with the President until after he receives comments from the PSB. At Mr. Dulles' request I have advised George Morgan that the matter should be on the agenda for the PSB luncheon this Thursday, 2 April.

2. The Rockefeller letter involves two major points.

a. The merger of the NSA and State Department foreign information, cultural and educational exchange programs in a new agency outside of the State Department.

b. The relationship between this new agency and the NSC and the PSB.

3. CIA is not directly concerned with the first problem mentioned above but has a very direct interest in the second problem.

4. I strongly recommend that Mr. Dulles take the following position when the matter is discussed at the PSB.

a. CIA takes no position with respect to the proposed new agency, but is unable to concur in the proposal regarding the Security Strategy Board (the suggested successor to the PSB) mainly because the Rockefeller terms of reference would create in SSB another command echelon over the DCI and put the SSR into operations.

b. CIA cannot at this time make any alternate recommendation regarding the SSB (or PSB) relationship because such a recommendation involves not only the overt agencies in question but inevitably covert activities as well. Consequently, such relationship is inextricably related to such views as may be expressed by the Jackson Committee. Consequently, on this point a joint Rockefeller Committee-Jackson Committee proposal is the only solution. Other reasons

for not

for not taking action at this time could be given, but the one mentioned is so important that it would seem better to stand on it alone.

5. The conclusions stated in paragraph 4.b. above were discussed with Mr. Howland Sargent of the State Department who is in complete agreement with them and was planning to talk to staff members of the Jackson Committee about them. They were also discussed with Bill Jackson who felt that his Committee must be included in any recommendations made on this problem. He added that in his opinion both G. D. Jackson and Nelson Rockefeller recognized the practical necessity of such a result and would, therefore, not oppose it even though their preference might be to permit a separate recommendation by the Rockefeller Committee.

6. I am planning to spend some time Thursday morning (April 2) discussing this problem with Bill Jackson and will report in detail as soon as I return.

C. TRACY BARNES  
Chief  
Political and Psychological Warfare

CPP/CTB/mab  
31 March 1953

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P.S.

Since dictating the above memo, I have talked to Bill Godel of Defense and Joe Phillips' office. Godel assured me that Mr. Kyes will take the position suggested in paragraph 4.b. above and stated that it was his understanding that Milton Eisenhower agreed to this position in his session with the Jackson Committee last Saturday. Joe Phillips' office stated that Howland Sargent and Walter Radius are the main individuals interested in these matters and indicated that, consequently, if we had agreement from Howland Sargent we, in effect, had the State Department view subject only to change by General Smith.

C.T.B.